

OFF THE GRID

Pilot  
"Being One With Nature"

Written by  
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FADE IN:

EXT. LOGAN FAMILY HOUSE - DAY

A well nurtured lawn and perfectly landscaped front yard. Spacious two story house, that's the envy of the neighborhood. Blooming and color coordinated flowers line the pathway to the front door.

SUPER: GREENSBORO, NC

INT. LOGAN FAMILY HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

BONNIE LOGAN (early 40's) A stay at home mom and family facilitator is tired and exasperated. She's been fielding calls from the principal and buying yet another lost or damaged cell phone.

CHARLIE LOGAN (16) makes an entrance with an attitude and a smart mouth.

CHARLIE

Mom, where the hell is my new cell phone? You were supposed to take care of that.

BONNIE

Look, you better drop the attitude. YOU, were supposed to take care of this one. This is the fourth one this year to be replaced.

CHARLIE

That's not my fault. You keep buying crappy phones.

BONNIE

Grow up, Charlie. Apparently, you're not old enough to have a phone.

CHARLIE

Apparently, you're a bitch!

Charlie walks away throwing and hitting things.

BONNIE

Get back here! We're not done. The principal called me again today.

A bedroom door slams.

BONNIE (CONT'D)  
CHARLIE LOGAN! I'm gonna strangle  
that kid.

INT. LOGAN HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

SAMANTHA LOGAN (15) makes a dramatic yet typical entrance.

Bonnie braces herself.

SAMANTHA  
Mom, you should've seen what Gigi  
said about me on Chat-Time! She  
said I look like I'm in preschool  
and that my mother must dress me.

BONNIE  
Would that be a bad thing?

SAMANTHA  
Thanks mom! This is all your fault.  
I'm never gonna live this down.

Bonnie looks dazed and confused. She takes a deep breath.

BONNIE  
You know what Sammie, I think  
you're beautiful and Gigi is just  
jealous of you.

SAMANTHA  
Of course you'd say that. I hate  
you!

Samantha storms off.

Door number two slams upstairs.

EXT. LOGAN HOUSE - FRONT YARD - DAY

JAY LOGAN (early 40's) stops to get the mail.

INT. LOGAN HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Jay throws the mail and his keys on the counter.

JAY  
Hey hon, what's for dinner? I'm  
starving.

Bonnie stares at him and breaks into hysterical laughter.

BONNIE  
You're starving? The three of you  
are nuts!

JAY  
Are you drunk or something?

BONNIE  
No, but what a great idea.

Bonnie crosses to the wine cabinet, grabs a bottle and the opener.

JAY  
I don't get it?

BONNIE  
You usually don't. Your children  
are upstairs being little assholes.  
You can figure out what to feed  
everybody. I'm off the friggin'  
clock.

INT. LOGAN HOUSE - STAIRS - DAY

Jay yells from the bottom of the stairs to the kids.

JAY  
Charlie, Sammie, get down here now.

CHARLIE (O.S.)  
I'm sleeping.

SAMANTHA (O.S.)  
I wanna die. Leave me alone!

INT. LOGAN HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Jay sits on a bar stool making a sandwich. He shakes the mustard container, but it's empty. He launches it into the trash can.

JAY  
Five points.

INT. LOGAN HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - NIGHT

Bonnie sits on the bed drinking straight from the bottle and reading an old magazine.

Jay slowly enters the room.

JAY  
Is it safe to come in here?

BONNIE  
No guarantees.

JAY  
Do you want to talk?

BONNIE  
Do you want to listen?

Jay realizes how serious she is.

JAY  
This doesn't sound too good.

BONNIE  
Maybe, because it isn't. You're never here. The kids have this unrealistic right to entitlement and I spend my days fielding problems and keeping things running.

JAY  
That's kind of your job.

BONNIE  
My job?

JAY  
I think we live a pretty good life.

BONNIE  
You don't have a clue who your children are, or what's happening in their lives.

JAY  
I'm sorry but someone has to make the money.

Bonnie is enraged.

BONNIE  
Wow. I see where this is headed. You said you could take a year sabbatical. I think now would be a good time to do that.

Jay looks at her like she's lost her mind.

JAY  
I'm gonna give you some space.

BONNIE  
Good idea. Turn the light off on  
your way out.

Bonnie throws his pillow at him.

INT. LOGAN HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Jay fully engages in a reality show. It's about a family moving miles from civilization so they can reconnect with each other. Cell phones and computers are gone and they have to grow their own food and become self sufficient.

JAY  
Maybe she's right.

He clicks the television off and he and his lone pillow fall asleep on the couch.

INT. LOGAN HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Jay whistles while he prepares pancakes, bacon and coffee. Charlie, Samantha and Bonnie smell the goodness in the air and enter the kitchen.

CHARLIE  
Wow. It smells good, dad.

SAMANTHA  
I didn't even know you could cook.

Bonnie moves slowly with a slight hangover.

BONNIE  
Coffee. I need coffee.

Jay pours her a cup.

The table is all set for them to sit down and eat as a family.

CHARLIE  
What's up dad? Why are you home  
today?

JAY  
I live here.

SAMANTHA  
You're never here.

Bonnie has a hangover from her party of one last night.

BONNIE  
Do you guys need to talk so loud?

They briefly pause.

JAY  
Well, we're going to change all of that.

BONNIE  
I can't wait to hear this.

JAY  
I've made a decision. For one year, we're going to move off the grid.

SAMANTHA  
Off the grid? What's that?

JAY  
We're going to move someplace where we grow our own food and we hunt. No cell phones or computers and we work together as a family.

CHARLIE  
Lame. I'm not going.

JAY  
You have no choice. You're going.

SAMANTHA  
I'll miss everything.

JAY  
It will just be a new normal for all of us.

BONNIE  
And how did you make this decision?

JAY  
I watched a reality show about a family that was out of touch with each other. They became one with nature.

BONNIE  
Honey, we don't even go camping.  
This could be a little challenging.

JAY  
I'm taking the lead, Bonnie. Isn't  
that what you wanted?

Bonnie thinks about his proposal.

BONNIE  
I'm in. Something has to change.

JAY  
Charlie, Sammie. What about you  
guys?

SAMANTHA  
I'll try it. But I want to take my  
computer.

CHARLIE  
Genius, you must have missed the  
part where he said no cell phones  
or computers.

SAMANTHA  
Shut up, Jerk!

JAY  
Guys!

CHARLIE  
This is so stupid. I'm going to my  
room.

Charlie storms off.

Bedroom door slams.

JAY  
Good. It's settled. I'll make some  
arrangements.

Sammie finishes her pancakes and leaves too.

Jay hugs Bonnie.

BONNIE  
I like the new take charge kind of  
you. I think it's sexy.

They kiss.



JAY

Well, there's more from where that came from.

He leads her up the stairs.

BONNIE

Be gentle. I really do have a headache this time.

They both laugh.

INT. LOGAN HOUSE - MASTER BEDROOM - MORNING

The door closes and the radio turns on.

INT. LOGAN HOUSE - CHARLIE'S ROOM - DAY

Charlie trashes his room. He rips his prized posters off the walls and launches a fast food laden trash can all over. After shaking a soda can he pops the lid and sprays it everywhere.

INT. LOGAN HOUSE - SAMANTHA'S ROOM - DAY

Sammie sits on her bed with a computer face-timing with a girl named Gigi.

SAMANTHA

I'll be off Chat-Time for awhile. My family is going to live off the grid and be one with nature.

Gigi her sometimes friend responds.

GIGI

Wow! That's cool. My family is so lame. Wish we'd do something like that.

Sammie is surprised at Gigi's reaction. She suddenly feels important and excited and writes back.

SAMANTHA

It will be pretty cool. You take care. Miss you.

GIGI

Miss you too! Take lots of pictures.

SAMANTHA

I will. Bye.

INT. LOGAN HOUSE - OFFICE - DAY

Jay gets off the phone after making arrangements for the next year.

Bonnie dusts around him.

JAY

Well, it's done. My sabbatical got approved. You remember John Duran and his wife Mary?

BONNIE

Of course.

JAY

They have a log cabin in Colorado that we can use for a year.

BONNIE

Colorado is beautiful.

JAY

The nearest neighbor and amenities are one hundred miles away.

BONNIE

This'll be a change.

JAY

I say let's try it for a few months, and then reevaluate things.

BONNIE

Are you sure we can do this?

JAY

All I know is that this family is drifting apart. Charlie has anger issues and Sammie can't figure out who she is. You're burned out and to be honest, so am I.

BONNIE

I won't argue with any of that.

JAY

I've noticed the kids are cussing quite a bit.

BONNIE

Not just them me too. I really have  
a potty mouth.

JAY

I've noticed.

Bonnie playfully flips him the finger.

BONNIE

This is a great idea and I've  
already started packing.

JAY

You sound like you knew we were  
gonna be doing this?

BONNIE

Well, I've already asked my brother  
Dave to take care of the house.

JAY

Good luck with that. I love him but  
he's a little nuts and has a  
drinking problem.

BONNIE

I already told him that I'll have  
to kill him if there are any  
problems.

JAY

Okay. Let's do this.

Jay and Bonnie high five each other.

BONNIE

I'll give Mary a call to thank  
them.

EXT. LOGAN HOUSE - FRONT YARD - DAY

The SUV is packed to capacity and so is the trailer behind  
it. Bonnie and the kids are seat-belted and waiting for Jay.

Jay locks the front door.

JAY

Until we meet again.

EXT. LOGAN HOUSE - FRONT YARD - DAY

As the SUV drives down the street, Bonnie's brother DAVE (30) squeals into their driveway.

He unloads cases of beer and alcohol and his German Shepard ARNOLD (8).

UNCLE DAVE  
Home Sweet Home, Arnie!

INT. LOGAN HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Dave prepares for a party. Chips, wings and beer fill the counter top.

Three of Dave's closest buddies, file in, sweaty, loud and ready to drink.

UNCLE DAVE  
Just in time for the game.

Dave lets out a big belch.

INT. LOGAN HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

They gorge on food and beer in front of the big TV.

UNCLE DAVE  
Game on!

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - DAY

The black SUV with an attached trailer travels down unpaved rocky roads seemingly leading to nowhere.

SAMANTHA  
Oh look there's a little bunny.

CHARLIE  
Sammi, you're so dumb. You'll be eating that little bunny for dinner.

JAY  
Stop it, Charlie! You're acting like a jerk.

SAMANTHA  
What? I'm not eating bunny. Nobody told me about that.

BONNIE  
Everybody stop. We haven't even got there and this shit starts up.

SAMANTHA  
Why isn't my phone working?

CHARLIE  
Duh, dummy. There isn't any reception up here and the computer you shoved under the seat won't work either.

SAMANTHA  
Mom, is that really true?

JAY  
No phones, no internet, no social media. Now knock it off.

BONNIE  
Oh my God! I hope we brought some wine.

Charlie responds looking for a fight.

CHARLIE  
Hey Mom, maybe you can make your own, since we're living on the land.

Bonnie stares at Charlie.

BONNIE  
Maybe you're right. We'll come up with our own label. Off the Grid Farms. You can help.

Charlie gives her a dirty look and flips her off.

BONNIE (CONT'D)  
You're skating on thin ice, buddy.

CHARLIE  
What are you gonna do?

JAY  
Don't talk to your mother like that.

CHARLIE  
Since when do you care? You're never around.

Samantha starts to cry.

SAMANTHA  
I miss Gigi.

CHARLIE  
You dumb ass. She's not your  
friend. She treats you like crap.

SAMANTHA  
Nobody likes you 'cause you're a  
jerk.

Bonnie loses it.

BONNIE  
Everybody SHUT THE HELL UP!

The kids and Jay look at her in disbelief, and there's  
silence the rest of the ride.

Bonnie studies the map. They are supposed to turn at Elk  
Skull Road marker 764.

BONNIE (CONT'D)  
According to the map, you take a  
left at Elk Skull Rd. It should be  
coming up.

SAMANTHA  
Oh that's a stupid name.

CHARLIE  
I think it's cool.

They drive for another hour and a half.

EXT. CABIN - EVENING

A log cabin, greenhouse, shed, water tank and septic tank sit  
on a plot of land surrounded by trees and rocks.

Chopped cords of wood are stacked on the side of it.

JAY  
Well Logan's, are you ready?

BONNIE  
Let's do this.

Jay unlocks the big wood door.

INT. CABIN - EVENING

They all stand in disbelief at how small the cabin is compared to their house.

A huge rock fireplace occupies a corner of the room.

The kitchen, bathroom and three small bedrooms look like something from Little House on the Prairie.

Sammi walks into a spider web and loses it.

SAMANTHA

Aahhhh! Something's on me. A spider's on me. Get it off!

Charlie springs into action.

CHARLIE

Stand still.

Charlie knocks it off her head with a little too much enthusiasm.

SAMANTHA

Ouch! Mommy, I can't do this. I wanna go home.

BONNIE

You're fine. Charlie took care of it. You need to thank him.

SAMANTHA

Thanks, jerk.

Charlie seems proud of himself.

JAY

John said the place runs on a generator. I'll get that going and Charlie why don't you grab some wood and put it in the fireplace.

CHARLIE

I got you dad.

BONNIE

Sammi, you can help me get the rooms and kitchen set up.

SAMANTHA

Ugh! I hate my life.

CHARLIE  
Grow up, Sammi.

SAMANTHA  
Shut up butt-head!

Bonnie who's operating on days without sleep is on her last nerve.

BONNIE  
Zip it you two. Just shut the hell  
up!

They once again seem stunned.

SAMANTHA  
Mommy. Chill out.

CHARLIE  
Way to go, mom. I love it when you  
cuss.

Bonnie rolls her eyes and shakes her head.

EXT. CABIN - EVENING

Jay locates the generator. With a flashlight he inspects it. With a push of a button it turns over and lights turn on.

JAY  
Got lucky on that one. Maybe this  
won't be so bad.

A distant roar from a mountain lion echoes in the air.

Jay turns around and in the corner of his eye, he sees a bear.

JAY (CONT'D)  
Don't fail me now legs.

Very carefully, he walks into the cabin and locks the door tightly.

INT. CABIN - EVENING

Bonnie turns on some lamps. And places whistles all over the place.

BONNIE  
Great job, hon.



JAY

Thanks. What are all these whistles for?

BONNIE

My Mom loaded me up with them and said they were for emergencies. Everyone needs to wear one.

She passes them out. Jay is unnerved about the bear he saw. He doesn't mention it to anyone.

JAY

We need to make sure to stay together when we're outside.

BONNIE

Did you get the guns from the SUV?

JAY

No. I got busy on other stuff. I'll get them first thing in the morning.

Bonnie and Sammi set up a little picnic with sandwiches and chips they had in the cooler.

BONNIE

Thank goodness for Subway. We won't be doing this for awhile.

CHARLIE

I'm starving.

SAMANTHA

Me too. I have to go to the bathroom first.

INT. CABIN - BATHROOM - NIGHT

Samantha screams from the bathroom.

SAMANTHA

Snake, there's a snake.

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Charlie grabs a shovel and a burlap bag that's on the fireplace.

CHARLIE  
I'll take care of it. You guys stay  
here.

BONNIE  
Who are you and what have you done  
with my kid?

INT. CABIN - BATHROOM - EVENING

Sammi stands petrified in a corner. A medium sized coiled  
snake lays in the waterless toilet.

CHARLIE  
Don't talk and don't move Sammi.  
I'll get it.

As it starts to slide out of the toilet, Charlie holds its  
head down with the shovel. He then grabs it behind its head  
and then the tail.

He throws it in the burlap bag and wraps a tight tie around  
the top.

A rattling sound can be heard through the bag.

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Sammi runs into her Dad's arms.

Charlie comes out with the squirming bag.

JAY  
What kind was it, Charlie?

CHARLIE  
Oh, it was a rattle snake.

SAMANTHA  
What! Oh my GOD!

BONNIE  
I didn't even know you knew  
anything about snakes.

CHARLIE  
I read a lot. Dad, you want to go  
outside with me and take care of  
this?

He firmly holds the squirming bag up.

Jay is concerned because he saw a bear out there earlier. He puts his whistle around his neck.

JAY  
I need to grab the guns out of the SUV. Let's do this.

CHARLIE  
I got you dad.

EXT. CABIN - EVENING

Jay grabs the guns from the SUV and hands a big shovel to Charlie.

Charlie puts the burlap bag on the ground and repeatedly stabs through the burlap cutting the snake in pieces.

JAY  
You're a beast. I don't know how you knew what to do.

CHARLIE  
I know all sorts of stuff. Like ...there's a bear behind those trees about a hundred yards away.

Jay blows the whistle with gusto as they make their way into the cabin.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)  
Damn, Dad! It sounds like an air raid.

The bear takes off in the opposite direction.

JAY  
Hey, it worked didn't it? We really need to pack some heat when we're out here.

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Jay secures the cabin while he tries to regain his breath.

Charlie pats him on the back.

CHARLIE  
You okay, dad?

JAY  
I will be when I can breathe.

BONNIE  
Charlie, I'm amazed by what you did.

CHARLIE  
Thanks, Mom. This place is pretty cool!

SAMANTHA  
Cool? It sucks!

CHARLIE  
You better toughen up, princess.

SAMANTHA  
Okay, you're still a jerk, but you saved my life. Thanks.

CHARLIE  
You're welcome. And Dad, the toilet doesn't work. There's no water in it.

JAY  
Nice. We'll look at that tomorrow.

BONNIE  
Why don't we sleep in this room tonight and tomorrow we'll make sure the other rooms are all clear.

SAMANTHA  
Sounds good to me, But I have to go to the bathroom still.

JAY  
I'll take you outside, grab some toilet paper. I'll get the shovel.

SAMANTHA  
I'm not going outside.

CHARLIE  
You don't have any choice, genius. The toilet doesn't work.

SAMANTHA  
I hate my life.

Samantha reluctantly grabs some toilet paper and her coat.

EXT. CABIN - NIGHT

Jay grabs a rifle from the SUV and finds a safe patch of trees with some privacy for Sammi.

SAMANTHA  
Are you kidding?

JAY  
It's the best we can do for now,  
kiddo.

Jay walks a small distance away as Sammi does her business.

A distressed Sammi, comes darting from the trees with her jeans wrapped around her ankles.

SAMANTHA  
Something was watching me. I saw  
two eyes glowing in the dark.

JAY  
Don't panic. We'll be fine.

Samantha yanks her jeans up and Jay leads her to the cabin.

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Bonnie lays multiple sleeping bags out and Charlie notices that Sammi is ruffled.

CHARLIE  
What happened to you? Did you fall  
in shit?

SAMANTHA  
Shut up! Something was watching me.

JAY  
Kids. Stop.

BONNIE  
What are you talking about?

SAMANTHA  
I saw two eyes glowing in the dark  
and they were watching me.

CHARLIE  
Could've been a mountain lion,  
bear, or a wolf.

BONNIE  
Charlie, you're not helping.

JAY  
We'll figure something out  
tomorrow. Let's get some sleep.

They all fall asleep by the warmth of the fireplace.

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - NIGHT

A bear sits on a rock having a late night supper. Fish is on his menu and maybe a rogue squirrel that keeps running around him.

The sounds of dueling wolves hauntingly echo in the air.

INT. LOGAN HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Dave's party is over, his buddies leave, and the house is a mess.

One of his friends threw up on the couch and beer bottles are strewn all over the kitchen and living room. Barbecue sauce has somehow found its way on the drapes and Arnie is licking them.

UNCLE DAVE  
I'm screwed.

He throws Arnie some pizza. He passes out on the couch.

INT. CABIN - KITCHEN - DAY

Bonnie and Sammi cook a big stack of pancakes, bacon and coffee.

SAMANTHA  
This is fun, Mom. We've never done  
this before.

BONNIE  
I guess we haven't. We're usually  
on our phones or computers.

SAMANTHA  
Dad and Charlie are getting along  
too. It's nice that we're all  
together.

BONNIE  
I agree, honey. That's the point of  
this whole thing.

SAMANTHA  
I know, Mommy.

Samantha kisses her Mom's cheek.

BONNIE  
What was that for?

SAMANTHA  
Just because. Do you think Uncle  
Dave is okay?

BONNIE  
One never knows what he's up to.  
He's aware that I'll kill him if he  
destroys the house.

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jay and Charlie make sure the guns are ready for use.

CHARLIE  
Dad, I'm glad we get to spend some  
time together. I really do miss you  
when you're gone.

JAY  
Charlie, I've missed a lot of your  
and Sammi's life. I thought I was  
doing the right thing by working so  
much.

CHARLIE  
It's okay, Dad. I'm a little  
asshole most of the time. I don't  
know how mom puts up with me.

Bonnie and Sammi enter with the breakfast feast. She fills  
the plates, while Sammi pours the coffee and milk.

BONNIE  
I heard my name. You guys better  
not be talking shit about me.

CHARLIE  
Never.

JAY

We were just saying what a great wife and mother you are.

BONNIE

When you're right, you're right. Let's eat.

JAY

Looks and smells great, girls!

SAMANTHA

Charlie, will you help check my room out for disgusting snakes and stuff?

CHARLIE

Yep, for sure.

Bonnie tears up.

BONNIE

I've never been as proud as I am at this moment. You guys are amazing.

SAMANTHA

Don't cry Mommy.

CHARLIE

Pull it together, woman. This is only our second day. I'm sure I'll screw up soon.

JAY

Charlie, you wanna help me in a bit with the septic tank?

CHARLIE

Affirmative. I don't want to be inside, sewing with the girls.

SAMANTHA

Jerk.

CHARLIE

You're okay for being a little sister.

SAMANTHA

So are you!

Playfully he maneuvers a choke hold and puts her to the ground.



They all laugh.

Charlie and Sammi head to the bedrooms to make sure they're all clear.

Jay pours them both more coffee.

JAY

I owe you an apology and let me get this out, before you jump in.

BONNIE

Okay.

JAY

I think raising kids is the hardest and most important job one can do. You've done great with Charlie and Sammi.

BONNIE

Thank you!

JAY

And... While I thought I was doing my part by making the money, I can now see that the much greater job is to be the heart and soul of the family. You make everything work.

BONNIE

That's nice to hear, hon. I too have something to say. I think I've been a little jealous, because you've been out in the world interacting with grown ups and I've felt insignificant. Just a stay at home mom.

JAY

Oh no, not just a stay at home mom. The best domestic engineer, strategic planner, growth overseer.

BONNIE

Growth overseer. I like that one.

Sammi yells from her bedroom.

SAMANTHA (O.S.)

Guys, come and look at my room.

INT. CABIN - SAMMI'S ROOM - DAY

Sammi's room is swept, cleaned organized and checked for unwanted visitors.

Pretty yellow flowered curtains hang from her window.

BONNIE

Hey guys. Wow! This is awesome.  
Where'd you get the curtains?

SAMANTHA

Grandma had me smuggle some things  
she packed for us. We all got  
curtains. She also gave us bug  
spray, tape and an extra box of  
whistles.

JAY

Whistles? Tape? Your grandma always  
does the nicest things.

BONNIE

Of course you'd say that. My Mom  
adores you. If we ever split up,  
she'd get rid of me.

JAY

I know. She told me.

They all laugh.

SAMANTHA

The best part is that Charlie  
checked the entire room out.  
There's no snakes or spiders.

CHARLIE

We also cleaned my room and yours.

BONNIE

What? Do you kids have a fever or  
something?

Bonnie checks their foreheads for a fever, then hugs and  
kisses them.

Jay also wraps his loving arms around the family.

CHARLIE

Okay, guys. We're good.

Charlie shakes everyone off.

JAY

Are you ready to look at that  
septic tank with me?

CHARLIE

Yep. Let me grab a gun.

BONNIE

Do you really think you'll need it  
out there?

CHARLIE

Mom, we're living off the grid.  
This is nature's house. We're  
uninvited guests.

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jay and Charlie grab their guns, while Bonnie and Sammi clean  
the breakfast dishes up.

BONNIE

You guys be careful out there. I'm  
a little worried.

CHARLIE

Don't worry Mom. I'll keep an eye  
on old dad here.

Charlie nudges his dad's side.

JAY

Let's go Grizzly Adams. The poop  
tank awaits us.

SAMANTHA

Who's Grizzly Adams?

CHARLIE

Don't you ever watch TV Land?

Sammi shrugs her shoulders.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Jay and Charlie walk to the back of the cabin. There's a 1500  
gallon clean water tank and what appears to be a large septic  
tank.

Charlie follows a water path leading from the house.

CHARLIE  
What's this pool of water?

JAY  
I don't know. John told me there's  
a clean water tank and then the  
septic tank.

CHARLIE  
Sammi will throw a fit if she has  
to go bathroom in the woods.

JAY  
We all may have to if we can't  
figure this out.

CHARLIE  
I get how it works, but the toilet  
doesn't have water in it.

JAY  
Something's clearly blocking or  
draining the water source.

CHARLIE  
Must be a broken pipe or something?  
Let's pour some water down the  
toilet and see where it goes.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Jay and Charlie fill two buckets with water from the nearby  
stream.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Charlie stands by the bathroom to see if the pool of water  
gets any bigger.

INT. CABIN - BATHROOM - DAY

Jay pours the buckets of water into the toilet and yells  
through the window to Charlie.

JAY  
Do you see anything, Charlie? The  
water isn't staying in here. It's  
draining somewhere.

CHARLIE

I see it Dad. I see right where the waters going. A pipe has to be broken.

He grabs a shovel and begins to dig. By the time Jay gets back outside, Charlie has dug the ground up to expose the pipe that drains into the septic tank.

JAY

I'll be damned. You were right. A broken pipe.

CHARLIE

I'll bet there's PVC pipe in the shed.

JAY

How do you know about PVC pipe?

CHARLIE

Uncle Dave showed me when I worked for him last summer.

JAY

I never knew that.

CHARLIE

He also gave me a beer.

JAY

Don't ever tell your mother. She'll never let us hang out with him again.

CHARLIE

I got you Dad.

They fist pump and head to the shed to get the PVC pipe and tools.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Charlie and Jay pull the broken pipe out and secure a new one.

They shovel the broken dirt back over it.

JAY

Maybe we should check to see if it works first.

They both feel confident and shake their heads.

JAY/CHARLIE  
Naw! It works.

INT. CABIN - BATHROOM - DAY

Jay fills the toilet and tank with more water.  
Charlie waits in anticipation.

JAY  
Let's try this.

He flushes the toilet. Sweet success.

CHARLIE  
We did it, man.

They jump in the air and stomach pump each other.

JAY  
Great job, kid!

BONNIE  
Don't hurt yourself, Jay. You're  
old.

Jay pounds his chest like a monkey.

CHARLIE  
We fixed a broken pipe. This is so  
friggin' cool.

BONNIE  
Great job! Now, I need you guys to  
clean the greenhouse out there.

CHARLIE  
Mom, where are you going to get  
plants?

BONNIE  
John and Mary grew their own  
vegetables. She said there's seeds  
and tools in the shed.

INT. CABIN - SAMMI'S ROOM - DAY

Sammi sits on the bed petting a mystery dog.

SAMANTHA  
Where'd you come from little guy?  
There's nothing around here.

The large dog stretches out on her bed, soaking every bit of attention up.

INT. CABIN - KITCHEN - DAY

Bonnie hears Sammi talking to someone and enters her room.

INT. CABIN - SAMMI'S ROOM - DAY

BONNIE

Oh my God! Where did you get that  
...that wolf?

SAMANTHA

Calm down Mom. It's a dog and it  
was scratching on the kitchen door.

BONNIE

Sammi, I'm pretty sure it's a wolf.

The animal rolls over on its back and Sammi strokes its stomach.

Charlie walks in looking for his mom.

CHARLIE (O.S.)

Mom? Oh Mother. We need your help  
in the greenhouse.

He sees the animal.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

Jesus! Where'd you get that wolf?

SAMANTHA

Shut up, idiot. It's a dog.

CHARLIE

You need glasses. It's definitely a  
wolf.

Jay comes in looking for Charlie.

JAY

Hey, where is everybody? Charlie  
you were supposed to get your mom.

He sees the large wolf on Sammi's bed.

JAY (CONT'D)

Where did that...

CHARLIE  
Wolf come from?

JAY  
Everybody remain calm. We'll just  
open the door and let him out.

The new pet isn't budging.

SAMANTHA  
Thor is so sweet. Can we keep him?

JAY  
Thor?

BONNIE  
Sammi, we don't know what this is  
or if it's had its shots.

JAY  
Or if it eats people.

Charlie moves closer to the animal laying casually on its  
back.

CHARLIE  
Hey genius, Thor isn't a dude. He's  
a girl.

They all quickly glance at Thor's goods.

SAMANTHA  
My bad. Well, her name will be  
Thora then.

CHARLIE  
A wolf named Thora. Only in this  
family.

Charlie walks off.

Thora jumps off the bed and follows him into the living room.

JAY (O.S.)  
Open the front door. Maybe Thora  
will go outside.

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Charlie sits in a chair with Thora on his lap, licking his  
face.

Bonnie, Jay and Sammi enter.



JAY

What's this? You were supposed to let her outside.

CHARLIE

Sammi's right for once. Thora is a nice wolf.

BONNIE

Is that a thing? Can we just keep a wild wolf as a pet?

JAY

We let your brother in our house and he's a wild animal.

BONNIE

Nice. Well, you guys are taking care of her.

Thora jumps off Charlie's lap and leans against Bonnie.

BONNIE (CONT'D)

Oh no you don't. You can't butter me up.

Thora adoringly clings to Bonnie.

BONNIE (CONT'D)

Okay. You must be hungry. Do you want something to eat?

Thora howls.

Bonnie leads her to the kitchen.

JAY

We need your help with the greenhouse, Bonnie.

BONNIE

Later. I need to get Thora settled.

Sammi stands tall with the biggest grin.

SAMANTHA

It's not so bad here.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Charlie and Jay have cleaned the greenhouse out, and find some fishing equipment, and seeds that Bonnie can plant.

JAY

Let's do some fishing? You up for that?

CHARLIE

Sure. They have great trout up here.

JAY

How do you know that?

CHARLIE

Why is everyone so surprised that I read a lot?

JAY

You're usually a little asshole. You've turned into a survivalist now.

Charlie beams as if he was just given a compliment.

CHARLIE

C'mon Dad. Let's go get dinner.

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - DAY

Charlie and Jay follow the creek by the cabin, to a river that's down stream. It's a two mile hike.

JAY

This is gorgeous. Gods country for sure.

CHARLIE

Dad, did mom like you right away?

JAY

Are you kidding me? (pause) NO! I grew on her. Why?

CHARLIE

I kinda like this girl named Daisy. She doesn't like me.

JAY

How do you know that?

CHARLIE

Oh she told me. She said I act like a jerk.

JAY  
Do you think maybe she's right?

CHARLIE  
Of course I do.

JAY  
Let me give you a piece of advice.  
Relationships take a lot of work.  
Always remember that.

CHARLIE  
Is that what you and Mom were  
fighting about?

JAY  
I think I've been acting like a  
jerk. I recently realized that.

CHARLIE  
I don't think I'm ready for a  
relationship.

JAY  
I agree. You have plenty of time to  
get tied down.

They laugh.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Sammi loaded with a gun and a whistle, collects wild flowers  
but is uneasy.

Thora seems sketchy and nervous too.

SAMANTHA  
I feel like something's looking at  
me.

Without warning, a battle rages between Thora and a mountain  
lion that's yards from Sammi.

SAMANTHA (CONT'D)  
Thora, NO!

Sammi springs into action. She shoots the gun a few times and  
Bonnie rushes outside.

BONNIE  
What the hell is going on?

A battered and bleeding Thora looks at the dead carcass of a mountain lion that Sammi shot.

Sammi is shaken and Bonnie is in shock.

The sound of the gunfire echo's in the forest.

SAMANTHA

Come here girl. Oh you are really hurt. Mommy help her.

BONNIE

Okay. But are you alright? I didn't know you knew how to shoot a gun?

SAMANTHA

I'm not as dumb as everyone thinks I am. That mountain lion would have killed Thora or one of us.

They lovingly yet cautiously bring Thora into the house.

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - DAY

In the near distance Jay and Charlie hear gunshots.

CHARLIE

What the hell is that?

JAY

It sounds like it's coming from the direction of the cabin. The girls, we need to get back to the girls.

They both drop their fishing gear and run through the trees.

Jay clips a big branch with his head and gets slammed to the ground.

Charlie turns back to help him, but Jay motions for him to get to the cabin.

CHARLIE

Dad!

JAY

Go. Get to the cabin.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Out of breath Charlie makes it to the cabin first. It looks like a scene from Scarface.

Laying dead on the ground is a mountain lion. Splatters of blood lead into the cabin.

Jay arrives right behind Charlie. His forehead is cut and he's a little confused.

JAY  
What's going on?

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Thora lays by the fireplace, while the girls bandage her wounds.

The boys burst through the door.

JAY  
What happened here?

BONNIE  
Shhh. We're trying to calm Thora down. She protected us from a mountain lion.

JAY  
And...

BONNIE  
And... Sammi killed it.

CHARLIE  
Right on little sister.

JAY  
Wait, what? I didn't know you knew how to shoot a gun?

SAMANTHA  
I didn't either. I guess I pay attention more than I know.

BONNIE  
You guys need to do something with that mountain lion.

CHARLIE  
Cool. Let's skin it.

JAY  
We don't know how to do that.

CHARLIE  
If we don't, a bears going to do  
it. Right outside our door.

SAMANTHA  
I'll help.

CHARLIE  
Right on.

Jay and Bonnie look at their kids in utter amazement.

SAMANTHA  
Thora, you stay in here with mommy.  
She'll take care of you.

CHARLIE  
Dad, I think Mom needs to take care  
of you too.

BONNIE  
What happened to your forehead?

JAY  
I fought with a big bear. You  
should see what he looks like.

BONNIE  
Right Rambo. Let me clean that paw  
print on your head. It must have  
been terrifying!

The kids laugh.

EXT. CABIN - DAY

Charlie, Sammi and Jay string the mountain lion up over a  
heavy tree branch and prepare to skin it.

JAY  
Do people eat mountain lion meat?

CHARLIE  
Sure they do, It tastes like wild  
boar.

JAY  
How do you... never mind.

Charlie almost expertly disrobes the cougar of its skin.

The contents of his stomach smell horrible.

JAY (CONT'D)

Damn what was this dude eating?

CHARLIE

Probably little bunnies.

SAMANTHA

Idiot.

Sammi and Jay cut the meet into pieces and put it in a big plastic bin.

CHARLIE

This will feed Thora for sure. She deserves it.

Bonnie comes out with salt, pepper and heavy plastic wrap.

JAY

What are you doing?

BONNIE

We're in this together. There's two big freezers in the greenhouse. I'm gonna season the meat and wrap it up.

SAMANTHA

Maybe when the skin dries out we can line a bed for Thora with it.

CHARLIE

Or let's make her a little coat.

SAMANTHA

Jerk.

CHARLIE

I'm kidding. Thora's a pretty cool wolf.

Jay turns the hose outside on and they all rinse the blood and entrails off.

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

The cabin is secure, the fireplace burns and the events of the day have wiped them all out.

Thora remains the center of attention as the fire warms them all.

JAY

I have to make a confession. That pretty much grossed me out to skin that cat.

CHARLIE

Great Dad. You're supposed to be our leader. Our protector.

JAY

I've never shot an animal or skinned one in my life. I'm a city boy.

CHARLIE

And you brought us up here, why?

BONNIE

We wanted to get everyone off of social media and the electronic devices. Get to know each other.

JAY

I've traveled so much and missed out on most of the things happening with you guys. I'm sorry.

BONNIE

We're just as guilty, hon. We're around each other all the time and still are disconnected.

SAMANTHA

Grandma says we don't have respect for each other.

JAY

She's right. Even though we know your mother is hard to get along with.

Jay winks at Bonnie.

BONNIE

You better watch it Buddy. You're gonna find a cougar head in your bed.

JAY

The Godmother has spoken.

BONNIE

Let's get some sleep. It was a long day.



SAMANTHA

I'm gonna sleep out here with Thora.

CHARLIE

Me too. Wouldn't want you to get scared.

SAMANTHA

You're still an idiot.

CHARLIE

I know. Thanks.

The kids settle in their sleeping bags, by Thora and the warm fire.

INT. CABIN - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jay turns down the bedspread and sheets.

Bonnie rubs moisturizer on her face and elbows.

JAY

Get in here woman.

BONNIE

You're such a mountain man now. Grrrr!

They kiss and snuggle in the inviting bed.

BONNIE (CONT'D)

I have no idea, how anybody did what they did today.

JAY

I guess you find out what you're made of, when life challenges your survival.

BONNIE

I'm really proud of the kids. I think this is really good for them.

JAY

I think it's good for all of us. However, let's see what I think tomorrow. I'm beat.

BONNIE

Me too, Hon. Give me a kiss.

They kiss and their snores blend into the darkness.

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - NIGHT

The forest is alive with activity.

A big brown bear walks down the middle of the flowing river. His big strong paws pull him forward and the sound of his hungry growls, drown the frogs out.

Wolves howl in a rhythmic sort of frenzy.

A big brown and white owl hoots at the full shaped moon.

Crickets sing in unison as if mourning the night.

INT. CABIN - BATHROOM - DAY

Charlie beats on the bathroom door, while Sammi takes her time finishing up.

CHARLIE

Sammi, hurry up. You've been in there for thirty minutes and I need to take a pee.

SAMANTHA

I'm not done. Go outside and go.

CHARLIE

What? If you're putting makeup on it's not going to help.

Charlie is holding his part doing the potty dance.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

What the hell, move it.

BONNIE (O.S.)

Watch your mouth, Charlie.

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Bonnie rubs Thora's head and gently kisses her tired paws.

BONNIE

You're a good girl, but your brother and sister aren't.

Charlie beats on the door harder while Sammi screams.

SAMANTHA (O.S.)  
MOM! Tell him to quit. He's being a big jerk.

CHARLIE (O.S.)  
She's been in there for over half an hour. I gotta pee now.

BONNIE  
Go outside then. You have that advantage and Sammi, move your ass.

CHARLIE (O.S.)  
Outside? You two are crazy.

Jay walks into the living room with Charlie following him.

JAY  
What's going on? Why are you screaming?

CHARLIE  
I can't get in the bathroom to take a leak. She's putting her makeup on.

Jay yells to Sammi.

JAY  
Sammi, you've been in there long enough. Get out.

INT. CABIN - BATHROOM - DAY

Sammi slowly opens the door.

Charlie rushes in the bathroom, hitting her in the shoulder.

SAMANTHA  
Dick!

BONNIE (O.S.)  
Samantha! Watch your mouth.

The bathroom door slams. The delightful sounds of relief come from the bathroom.

CHARLIE (O.S.)  
AAAGGGHHHH! Oh my God. Yes.

INT. CABIN - KITCHEN - DAY

Bonnie busily makes bacon and eggs.

Thora finds her way into the kitchen and lays by the kitchen door.

BONNIE  
Oh little girl. Do you have to go outside?

Bonnie yells for someone to take her out.

BONNIE (CONT'D)  
Guys, Thora needs to go out and someone needs to watch her.

Nobody responds.

Bonnie opens the door for her to go out as Jay enters the kitchen.

As Thora goes out, a squirrel runs in the kitchen.

Bonnie screams and chases it with a pan. As she flings her arm back she slams Jay in the head and knocks him out cold.

BONNIE (CONT'D)  
Oh my God! Jay! Honey wake up.

The shocked squirrel runs out the door to freedom.

Charlie and Sammi come running and see their dad flattened on the floor.

SAMANTHA  
Mom, what'd you do to him?

BONNIE  
It was an accident. Get me a cold rag.

CHARLIE  
I know what to do.

Charlie grabs a whistle and blasts it.

BONNIE  
What the hell is wrong with you?

A startled Jay revives.

JAY  
I'm up. Can't be late for work.

BONNIE

Jay? Honey, are you okay?

SAMANTHA

You friggin scared him, Charlie.

CHARLIE

It worked didn't it. He's alive and breathing.

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - DAY

The three of them bring Jay to his feet and guide him to the living room. They gently place him on the couch.

Thora who's moving kind of slow, finds a spot on the floor by his side.

JAY

Thora I look as bad as you do only you got chewed up by a cougar.

BONNIE

I'm sorry, hon. Thora needed to go out and a rogue squirrel came running in and I lost my shit.

CHARLIE

Damn, I guess, Mom.

They smell something burning in the kitchen.

BONNIE

Oh my God! The bacon is burning. That's all we need is a fire.

INT. CABIN - KITCHEN - DAY

Charlie grabs a fire extinguisher and blasts the searing pan.

Bonnie and Sammi are right behind him.

BONNIE

Okay you've got it. Thanks. You know what? Everyone gets cereal today.

SAMANTHA

I'll clean things up, Mommy.

BONNIE

Well, thank you Sammi. I think I need to plant seeds today. Something easy.

SAMANTHA

Can I help?

BONNIE

Of course. I'd like that. What are you guys gonna do today?

They all walk into the living room.

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Thora and Jay both have a bandage wrapped around their heads.

JAY

Thora and I are going to take a long nap.

CHARLIE

You've hit your head a couple of times. I hope you don't have a concussion.

JAY

My skull is too thick for that. It's just a little tender right now.

CHARLIE

I'm gonna go fishing.

JAY

Good luck. It's a nice day for fishing.

INT. GREENHOUSE - DAY

Sammi and Bonnie organize the wood containers and fill them with fresh soil from the shed.

The packs of seeds are lined up alphabetically.

SAMANTHA

This place is huge. How are we gonna know what each plant is?

BONNIE

I thought if we alphabetized the seeds and put sticks in each container to identify them, it would be easier.

SAMANTHA

I get it. Good idea.

BONNIE

Basil, beans, carrots, chilies, cucumbers, lettuce, oregano, peppers, potatoes, radishes, rosemary, strawberries, tomatoes, thyme, watermelon, zucchini.

SAMANTHA

Wow. That's a lot.

BONNIE

If they all grow, it'll be great.

They dig little holes in the dirt and drop the seeds.

BONNIE (CONT'D)

I hope your dad is okay. I really clocked him.

SAMANTHA

It probably scared the squirrel pretty good, too! He'll never come back.

BONNIE

I hope your brother's safe fishing.

SAMANTHA

Charlie's so confident. He always seems to figure things out. It makes me mad.

BONNIE

You need to try and get along with him. You can be a pill too.

SAMANTHA

I know. It's a curse.

BONNIE

I'm serious. You both need to grow up a bit.

SAMANTHA

That's what Grandma said too.

BONNIE  
She's pretty smart. Listen to her.

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jay and Thora munch on potato chips.

JAY  
These will make us feel better.  
Wish I had a game on. Bet Uncle  
Dave is watching one.

Thora happily munches on the new taste treat.

INT. LOGAN HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Dave wakes up with a major hangover. He's wearing Bonnie's robe and a shower cap.

UNCLE DAVE  
Ouch. I hurt. What the hell  
happened here?

Dave has no memory of last night and pops open a beer.

UNCLE DAVE (CONT'D)  
This is a hair of the dog  
breakfast.

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Bonnie and Samantha finish in the greenhouse and leave their shoes at the door. She see's the potato chip bag and the happy chewers.

BONNIE  
Jay what exactly are you doing?

JAY  
I'm helping Thora to feel better.

BONNIE  
You are, huh? Once the chips are gone, they're gone, Buddy. Thora hasn't been fed yet. She needs more than chips.

JAY  
Okay. I hear you.

Reluctantly, he closes the bag and hands it to Bonnie.



JAY (CONT'D)  
Mommy is mean, Thora.

BONNIE  
Daddy has lost his mind. She needs  
some of that cougar meat. The  
protein will help her heal.

JAY  
You're not gonna give that to me  
too are you?

BONNIE  
You need to heal too.

JAY  
I'm not very hungry.

BONNIE  
At some point, we all might have to  
eat it. The store is a long way  
away.

JAY  
Hopefully, Charlie will get some  
fish.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

Charlie throws his line into the water and reels in fish  
after fish. His basket is full of fresh Rocky Mountain,  
Rainbow Trout.

EXT. RIVER - DAY

A manical yet friendly squirrel, runs around him and jumps at  
him.

Charlie stands up to get away and hits a hornet hive.  
Furiously, they line up into formation and chase him.

He dives into the river to escape their penetrating stings.

CHARLIE  
You little bastards.

Finally, they retreat and he's left hurting and swollen. He  
grabs some mud from the bank and lathers it on his stings.

The little squirrel sits and watches the action.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)  
What are you looking at?

EXT. ROCKY MOUNTAINS - DAY

Charlie walks through the trees with his little friend following him.

The temperature drops and the sun starts to set.

INT. CABIN - EVENING

Charlie enters looking battered and exhausted.

SAMANTHA  
What happened to you?

BONNIE  
Oh my God, Charlie! Your face is swollen. What'd you tangle with?

CHARLIE  
This squirrel was bugging me and I fell down and hit a hornets nest.

JAY  
They are brutal, man.

BONNIE  
We better get some Benadryl from the first aid kit.

SAMANTHA  
You might take a bath too. You smell.

CHARLIE  
And you're still ugly.

Jay grabs his still throbbing head and yells.

JAY  
GUYS, STOP!

CHARLIE  
Damn, okay Dad. Chill.

INT. CABIN - KITCHEN - EVENING

Bonnie thaws and warms up some cougar meat in the microwave.

Thora sits patiently waiting for dinner.

BONNIE

I don't know what we'd do if the microwave breaks. I guess we'd really be roughing it.

Bonnie puts the bowl down and Thora inhales the meat.

BONNIE (CONT'D)

Oh, you were so hungry, girl. I'll feed you earlier tomorrow.

Charlie brings the basket with trout into the kitchen.

BONNIE (CONT'D)

Did you take the Benadryl?

CHARLIE

I did. Nature sure is unpredictable.

BONNIE

You said we were uninvited guests in their house. I think that's true.

CHARLIE

I can see why there's so many bears around here. The river is loaded with fish.

BONNIE

These rainbow trout are my favorite. I'll fry some up for dinner and freeze the rest. You go sit down with your dad.

Bonnie puts her apron on and grabs a big fry pan and oil.

BONNIE (CONT'D)

Sammy, I need your help please.

SAMANTHA (O.S.)

Why do I have to help? Charlie can do it.

BONNIE

Charlie caught our dinner. Now move it, Sister.

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Samantha sets the table in the living room while she laughs and makes fun of the boys.

SAMANTHA  
You guys look awful.

BONNIE (O.S.)  
Sammi, zip it.

SAMANTHA  
What did I do?

BONNIE (O.S.)  
Just set the table. I'm almost done here.

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Bonnie brings in individual plates with fresh trout and buttered potatoes with parsley.

JAY  
That looks great, hon.

CHARLIE  
I hope I can chew. I got stung on my mouth.

BONNIE  
Eat what you can.

JAY  
Thanks for catching these, Charlie.

CHARLIE  
Yep. I got you.

They fist pump.

Sammi is quiet and sullen.

BONNIE  
What's wrong with you?

SAMANTHA  
I have the cramps.

CHARLIE  
Here we go. Anytime somebody is sick or hurt, something's wrong with you too.

SAMANTHA  
Shut up, you friggin' butt-head!

BONNIE  
Samantha Jo Logan. Watch your  
mouth.

SAMANTHA  
He started it.

CHARLIE  
She always does this.

SAMANTHA  
I hate you all.

Sammi runs to her room.

JAY  
I think something's really wrong  
with her. She's so moody.

CHARLIE  
She's female. They're all like  
that.

BONNIE  
Excuse me?

CHARLIE  
Sorry Mom.

BONNIE  
She gets like this every month. At  
some point she needs to be put on  
birth control.

JAY  
Birth control? Are you crazy?

BONNIE  
It helps with hormones and cramps.

Charlie is grossed out at the conversation.

CHARLIE  
I'm out of here. Thora and I are  
going to bed.

JAY  
Me too. Great dinner, hon.

Bonnie sits surrounded by dirty dishes.

BONNIE  
I think I'll have some wine.

She crosses over to a cooler and pulls a bottle and a glass out.

As she sits alone on the couch, the warmth from the fire illuminates the room. Peace at last.

EXT. LOGAN FAMILY HOUSE - BACK PORCH - NIGHT

Uncle Dave sits at a drum set jamming all by himself.

His off key intoxicated voice is encouraging dogs to bark.

Lights in the neighborhood go on and neighbors yell for him to stop the drumming.

NEIGHBOR (O.S.)  
Shut the hell up!

EXT. LOGAN HOUSE - FRONT YARD - NIGHT

A police car pulls up and neighbors gather in front of the house.

Uncle Dave's bad drumming can be heard for blocks.

EXT. LOGAN HOUSE - BACK YARD - NIGHT

A policeman walks around to the back to witness the one man show.

POLICEMAN  
Excuse me.

Dave doesn't hear a thing.

POLICEMAN (CONT'D)  
Excuse me. Sir.

The policeman pulls his gun out.

POLICEMAN (CONT'D)  
You need to put those drum sticks down.

DAVE  
Wow. I didn't hear you. What's up, man?

POLICEMAN

It's almost midnight and your neighbors are complaining. You're too loud. What's your name?

DAVE

Dave. I'm just having a little party here.

POLICEMAN

Well, your little party is over. If I get called back out here, you're going to jail.

DAVE

Harsh, man. That's harsh.

The officer opens the sliding patio door and directs Dave inside.

INT. CABIN - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Bonnie wakes up cuddled with Thora on the couch.

BONNIE

Oh. Good morning, girl. Do you feel better?

Thora's so happy to be loved that she almost purr's like a cat.

BONNIE (CONT'D)

I'll bet you're hungry. I'm gonna feed you twice a day. What do you think about that?

Charlie stumbles in half asleep. He finds a spot on the couch.

CHARLIE

Hey Thora. When did you come out here?

BONNIE

I don't know. I woke up and here she was.

CHARLIE

Mom, I have a question?

BONNIE

Sure honey. What is it?

CHARLIE

Do you really think I'm an asshole?

BONNIE

I think at times we all act like assholes.

CHARLIE

Okay you answered that. I've got some stuff to work on.

BONNIE

Why would you ask a question like that?

CHARLIE

Dad's gone most of the time and you're mad at Sammi and I a lot. I just wondered.

BONNIE

Honey, I just get tired of everything. I think you kids take me for granted and so does your dad. I'm always figuring something out.

CHARLIE

I know I can be a jerk. I don't why exactly. I feel mad most of the time.

BONNIE

Do you think you need to talk to someone?

CHARLIE

You mean like a therapist?

BONNIE

Yeah, something like that. Sometimes it's easier to talk to someone we're not related to.

CHARLIE

When Grandpa died, our family changed. We stopped doing stuff together. Dad traveled more and you seemed so sad.

BONNIE

Oh, Buddy. That was the hardest thing I've ever been through.



Grandpa was my rock. He was my light in the storm.

CHARLIE

I know. Maybe I could be your light?

BONNIE

I'd like that. I promise I'm gonna try harder.

Bonnie hugs Charlie.

CHARLIE

Me too.

Sammi walks in and works her way between Charlie and Thora.

SAMANTHA

Scoot over, jerk.

Charlie thinks before he reacts and gets up.

CHARLIE

Okay Sammi. It's all good.

Charlie leaves.

SAMANTHA

What's up with him? He seems almost happy.

BONNIE

He's looking at life a little bit differently. I think you should too.

SAMANTHA

What do you mean?

BONNIE

You're awfully up and down. Sometimes you say things just to start a fight.

SAMANTHA

Well, he's an idiot most of the time.

BONNIE

C'mon Sammi. You blame him for everything. You need to be a little bit nicer.

SAMANTHA

That's what Grandma says too.

BONNIE

Your Grandmother is pretty smart.

SAMANTHA

Did you think so when you were a kid?

BONNIE

Probably not. I'm sure I was a jerk at times.

SAMANTHA

Thanks for letting us keep Thora. I've been wanting a dog for a long time. I feel lonely sometimes.

BONNIE

I'm sorry, honey. I just didn't want to take care of another thing.

SAMANTHA

I'll help you with her.

BONNIE

Deal.

Jay casually strolls in.

JAY

You guys look cozy.

BONNIE

My girls and I were just having a heart to heart.

JAY

And what did your hearts come up with?

BONNIE

We decided that you and Charlie are cooking breakfast today.

JAY

Okay. What do you want?

BONNIE

What do you mean okay? This will only be the second time you've fixed breakfast in twenty years.

JAY

I would've done it more, but you don't like me in your kitchen.

BONNIE

That's not true. But if you're going to help, you need to look alive.

JAY

Look alive? Hon, you always think your way is the best way.

BONNIE

Well, it usually is. However, I'm going to give up some control.

JAY

I'm scared now. I feel this isn't going to be good for me.

Charlie joins the group dressed and ready to start the day.

BONNIE

On the contrary, dear husband. I don't give any of you enough credit. You're all smart and capable of figuring things out.

JAY

Did you hear that? You kids need to help Mommy out more.

Jay pushes himself on the couch and tickles Bonnie.

BONNIE

You jerk!

Thora feels that the couch is over crowded and she slides to the floor.

SAMANTHA

I think she's hungry, Momma.

BONNIE

We need to cook some of that cougar meat with left over potatoes from last night, and I want to make a big pot of brown rice to mix in her food later.

CHARLIE

I'll get the meat.

SAMANTHA

I'll get the potatoes.

JAY

I'll stay right here and snuggle  
with Mommy.

Sammi and Charlie find their way to the kitchen and Thora follows them.

BONNIE

I didn't realize how messed up  
thing were in our home.

JAY

What do you mean?

BONNIE

Charlie opened up about my Dad's  
death and how it affected him.

JAY

That was hard for sure.

BONNIE

Sammi feels lonely and they think  
I'm sad a lot.

JAY

Are you?

BONNIE

I've been overwhelmed. I lost my  
Dad and can't catch my breath  
sometimes. I feel like I get  
anxiety attacks.

JAY

That's not good. We'll have to take  
some pressure off of you. It was  
never my intention to make you feel  
used or not appreciated.

BONNIE

I know, hon.

JAY

The truth is, you always seem to  
have everything under control. I've  
been afraid if I'm around more,  
you'll see how much you don't need  
me.

BONNIE

God. It's just the opposite. I need you. I like being around you.

JAY

If we hadn't taken this time off the grid, we probably wouldn't be having these conversations.

BONNIE

I don't know how long this will last, but I'm grateful to be having these conversations.

JAY

Maybe this time away will help Uncle Dave too. We kind of made excuses for his behavior.

BONNIE

I know. When Dad died, he went off the deep end. Now, he needs to grow up. He's such a weirdo.

Charlie, Sammi and Thora come in with hot mugs of coffee.

SAMANTHA

Here Mommy, just the way you like yours.

CHARLIE

Here's yours Dad.

BONNIE

Thanks, guys.

SAMANTHA

I wonder how Uncle Dave is doing?

BONNIE

Oh, I'm sure he's doing just fine.

They all pile back onto the couch.

SUPER: SQUIRREL LOOKING IN THE WINDOW

EXT. LOGAN HOUSE - FRONT YARD - DAY

Uncle Dave waters half dead flowers with a hose.

He stands with a cup of coffee in his hand and a Danish.

A police car stops out front.

POLICEMAN

Hello. You don't happen to know anything about a cow in this neighborhood do you?

UNCLE DAVE

A cow? You mean a moo cow?

POLICEMAN

That's what I mean. Your neighbors seem to think they've heard mooing coming from your house.

UNCLE DAVE

Odd. Very odd.

POLICEMAN

You take care.

As they drive off, Dave turns the hose off and makes his way into the house.

INT. LOGAN HOUSE - KITCHEN - DAY

Standing in the kitchen is a black and white cow.

DAVE

Can you imagine. What would I be doing with a cow in the house?

COW

Moo!

FADE OUT.